

Appln. No. 10/780,040
Amdt. dated Jan. 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 15, 2004

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (withdrawn): A flap device as set forth in claim 1

wherein the torsionally stiff connection between the control element and the shaft portion comprises a groove-and-tongue connection.

Claim 4. (currently amended): An insert A flap device as set forth in claim 12.

wherein the torsionally stiff connection between the control element and the shaft portion comprises a press fit.

Claim 5. (withdrawn): A flap device as set forth in claim 1

wherein the shaft portion and the control element are formed in one piece.

Claim 6. (currently amended): An insert A flap device as set forth in claim 12.

wherein the shaft has a side which is flattened in the longitudinal direction of the shaft, and the control element bearing against said flattened side with a flat side and being fixable thereto in torsionally stiff relationship.

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Claims 7-11. (cancelled)

Claim 12. (new) An insert to be positioned between the induction system with its individual induction ducts and the cylinder head of an internal combustion engine comprising:

a plurality of openings connected to the induction ducts and fitted with flap devices for influencing the flow cross-section in the openings wherein each flap device comprises a control element arranged in the respective opening and between each two neighbouring control elements one shaft portion having a first and second end and of cranked configuration in a region between the first and second ends, and means for mounting the shaft portions rotably with respect to the openings, and means operable to fix the control elements in torsionally stiff relationship to the first and second end of the shaft portion.

Claim 13. (new) A plurality of flap devices arranged in a row for influencing the flow cross section in a plurality of medium carrying conduits, comprising:

a plurality of control elements each arrangeable in a conduit,
a plurality of shaft portions each having a first and second end and of a cranked configuration in a region between the first and second ends,
means for mounting the shaft portions rotably with respect to the conduits, and
means operable to fix first and second control elements in torsionally stiff relationship to the first and second ends of each of the shaft portions.